

## ROBBERIES PUZZLE JEWEL FIRMS

Nineteen Employees Dismissed  
from Sales Department by  
Famous Establishment.

### NEW SYSTEM ADOPTED

Gorham Company, in Dealing with  
Woman, Loses Opportunity to  
Recover Stolen Silverware.

Thefts from the large jewelry and silverware stores of this city, more extensive in the last few weeks than in any other Christmas shopping season in recent years, according to the police, have been marked this year by two unusual incidents. One of the most famous establishments in the world suddenly dismissed nineteen from the corps of trusted employees in the sales department. A large number of costly articles of silver stolen from the Gorham Company were not recovered because good faith was not kept by persons negotiating with the thief who was seeking to listen her confession.

In the Fifth Avenue storehouse of goods and works of art of the one concern, the system governing salesmen is reported to have been changed following the dismissal of the nineteen members of the staff. In this establishment any clerk, waiting upon customers in his own department, if they required service in other departments, would continue to wait upon them until their purchases had been completed.

Thus a salesman in charge of the bronzes might sell a clock to a customer, and on inquiry for diamonds would go to the diamond department and open cases and exhibit goods there. In most other establishments the clerks of each department are responsible for everything on sale in their own departments and customers from other departments are turned over to them.

Few calls are ever made upon the police to aid in recovering valuables stolen from jewelry stores, but the detectives to whom such cases are referred, when complaints are made, were most interested in the reported reorganization of the sales system and the dismissal of a part of the staff.

In the Gorham case many articles had disappeared from counters and cases. The most costly article taken was a large solid silver pitcher, artistically wrought, priced at \$200. Silverware, including a piece of silver plate were included in the list.

The first clue to the missing property came through the arrest of a woman, a professional thief, who had been caught stealing a dress from another store in Fifth Avenue. Seeking to escape severe punishment she offered to reveal the whereabouts of much stolen property. A pledge was given that such knowledge would not be used to add to her own sentence. When this offer was accepted, she told what disposition had been made of the silver pitcher and many other articles which, she said, had been stolen from the Gorham establishment.

An employee of the silversmiths had given the pledge of immunity she demanded, the police say, and was followed by representations to the District Attorney's office upon which an indictment was sought against the woman charging her with complicity in the Gorham thefts. These proceedings, if successful, would have enabled the firm to have summoned into court on writs of replevin all pawnbrokers in possession of the alleged stolen Gorham property, and forced the return of the property without any payment upon proper identification of the goods, without any compensation to the pawnbrokers.

But the evidence presented was insufficient for replevin proceedings, and the woman went to prison under light sentence, still keeping secret her knowledge as to the whereabouts of much of the stolen silver.

After the effort to coerce the pawnbrokers, the police say, announced that no property would be returned except upon judicial establishment of its ownership by the Gorham company and evidence that each piece had been stolen from that concern. The result was that the pawnbrokers kept the silver, including the pitcher.

## ELECT MAN AS PRESIDENT.

Women Too Busy to Serve, So They  
Name Mr. Deming as Head of  
Aid Society.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]  
WINSTED, Conn., Wednesday.—Members of the Ladies' Aid Society of Tolland, a nearby Massachusetts town, were too busy to accept the presidency, so they elected Clayton Deming to that office. Mrs. Theresa Hale, a member, said:—

"Mr. Deming will make a first class president and we expect a prosperous year. Years ago Deacon Hale served, and as everything went well that year we thought we would try it again."

"I think the election is strictly proper and the women are to be congratulated," said another, "if women are to take men's places and try to rule, why shouldn't women elect men to govern them?"

## HELD FOR SHOOTING THREE.

Joseph Sauer Accused of Killing  
James Dunbar and Wounding  
Companions.

Joseph Sauer, of Nos. 47-49 East 123d street, charged with shooting and killing James Dunbar and wounding Michael Gerrity and John Fay, as the three were leaving the apartments of Mr. and Mrs. James Willis, of the same address, New Year's Eve, was held yesterday in \$15,000 bail for the Grand Jury. Gerrity is in the Harlem Hospital in a serious condition. Fay was shot in the leg.

Mrs. Emily Whitlock testified at the inquest yesterday that she had seen Sauer load a gun and threaten to kill the men who were in the Willis apartments.

## DROWNING, FIGHTS RESCUER.

Policeman Unable to Save Man Who  
Leaped Into River.

Shortly after one o'clock yesterday afternoon, while Policeman James Crotty, of the East Fifty-first street station, was on duty at the foot of East Fifty-third street, he noticed a man take off his coat, run to the end of the pier and leap overboard.

Crotty blew his police whistle and Policeman Thomas O'Connell hurried to the scene. Waiting only long enough to throw his cap aside he jumped overboard. Policeman O'Connell reached the man and attempted to swim ashore with him. The man resisted all efforts at rescue, and to save himself O'Connell had to let him go. The man immediately sank from view. The policeman, exhausted, was taken to Flower Hospital.

## Mrs. Morrow Faces New Evidence On Charge of Slaying Husband

Police Express Confidence They Will  
Convict "Some One" for Chi-  
cago Inventor's Death.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]  
CHICAGO, Ill., Wednesday.—New evidence has been found, the police said to-day, which will go far toward clearing up the mystery of the death by shooting of Charles B. Morrow, inventor, whose body was found on the rear porch of his home, No. 4,525 South Michigan avenue, last week.

Asked if any one in the house besides Mrs. Morrow had figured in his investigation, Inspector Clancy said:—"I cannot give you any further details at this time except to say that at least one conviction will be the result of my investigation."

Judge Keenan in the criminal court issued an order to-day for the exhumation of the body of Morrow to permit a second autopsy. The order was issued on application of Charles E. Epstein, counsel for the accused wife. This action, Mr. Epstein said, was aimed to support his client's contention that Morrow committed suicide.

Dr. Springer, coroner's physician, said:—"Any doctor will find just what I found. He will find that one of the two bullets penetrated Morrow's heart and that the other passed through his brain and that either was sufficient to cause instant death."

## BIG DECREASE IN NUMBER OF FIRES

Commissioner Johnson Reports to  
Mayor Gaynor a Falling Off  
of 2,452 a Year.

The report of Joseph Johnson, Fire Commissioner, for the last six months of 1911, which was sent to Mayor Gaynor yesterday, states that fires have fallen off at the rate of 2,452 a year. (Since 1888 there has been only one year in which the fires have been fewer than the preceding year.) That was in 1909, when there were 12,437 fires, against 15,039 in 1908.

In the first six months of 1911 there were 7,832 fires, and if that rate had been kept up, the Commissioner says, the fires for the year would have totaled 15,624 as against 14,405 in 1910, or an increase of 1,219. As a matter of fact the year ends with seven less fires than there were in 1910.

"The present situation," says Commissioner Johnson, "has been brought about, in my opinion, by a number of causes, chief among which is the publicity which the newspapers have given to our efforts in the direction of preventing fires. This result has been brought about by more numerous and more thorough inspection of hazardous premises, and these inspections have been made, to a large extent, by the uniformed force in the absence and anticipation of a Bureau of Fire Prevention. It indicates what can be done in the city by a well manned and equipped Bureau of Fire Prevention."

"Another considerable factor has been Mayor Johnson's attitude on Civil Service appointments, under which the Fire Department has literally obeyed every executive order to take the men from the eligible list in the order set down by the Civil Service Commission. I am sure this has heartened the men in their work and vastly increased their efficiency."

In support of his plea for \$500,000 for the Bureau of Fire Prevention, Commissioner Johnson points out that while New York has 300 fires for every 100,000 inhabitants, London has only eighty-one; Paris, seventy-four; Berlin, thirty-eight; St. Petersburg, seventy-three; and Vienna, fifty-nine.

## YESTERDAY'S FIRES.

Fires reported yesterday were:—  
12:40 A. M., No. 134 Broome street; Hum Sec. Laundry; \$250.  
12:45 A. M., No. 35 Pearl street; Henry Dew Gum Company; \$2,500.  
12:57 A. M., No. 614 East Eleventh street; Louis Melick; \$50.  
1:00 A. M., No. 184th street and Ogden avenue; John Drew; trifling.  
1:05 A. M., No. 1521 Third avenue; Samuel Goldman; trifling.  
1:08 A. M., No. 139 West Thirty-first street; Gotham Press Company; \$1,000.  
2:00 A. M., No. 378 Second avenue; Salvatore Grasso; \$20.  
2:25 A. M., No. 235 East Forty-ninth street; Augustus; \$25.  
2:55 A. M., No. 52 West 120th street; John L. Coady; trifling.  
3:15 A. M., 758 Eighth avenue; A. Huber; none.  
3:50 A. M., No. 1,714 Lexington avenue; J. Gerrero; \$300.  
4:20 A. M., No. 90 Bedford street; Mrs. Helburn; \$400.  
4:35 A. M., No. 204 East 112th street; Mrs. Rabinowitz; light.  
12:20 P. M., No. 1,752 Bathgate avenue; Benjamin Cytrom; \$20.  
1:46 P. M., No. 55 Jackson street; Max Belfsky; trifling.  
2:15 P. M., No. 51 East 133th street; David Himselard; \$100.  
3:10 P. M., No. 97 Crosby street; Miller Leather Goods Company; \$50.  
3:25 P. M., No. 245 East Eighteenth street; Any Gushman; trifling.  
6:25 P. M., No. 57 West Sixty-second street; Colonial Theatre; trifling.  
6:40 P. M., No. 40 East Ninth street; S. Green; \$500.

The new Washington Irving High School, the largest non-coeducational institution of the kind in the world, trains girls for wedded life. See next Sunday's NEW YORK HERALD.

## TWO ACCUSERS ARRESTED.

Employers of Man Who Is in Prison  
Charged with Compounding  
Felony.

Louis Gervetz and Benjamin Spitzer, both of No. 28 Beekman place, were held in \$2,000 bail each for examination on Friday by Magistrate Butts, in the Harlem Court, yesterday on a charge of compounding a felony.

Simon Friedman told the Magistrate that his nephew, Victor Friedman, who had been employed by the prisoners, had been arrested on their complaint that he had stolen \$5 and sentenced to the reformatory. Recently, the uncle said, the two men told him the amount stolen was \$102.05, and offered to withdraw the charge against the young man and try to have him freed if the uncle would pay the money.

Second Body Found in Fire.  
Another body was found yesterday in the ruins of the Mutual Milk and Cream Company's depot in East Twenty-second street, which was destroyed by fire Monday morning last. The first body was found Tuesday, and was identified as a workman known only as "Charley." The body found yesterday was that of a workman, John McCormick.



MRS. CHARLES B. MORROW

that the other passed through his brain and that either was sufficient to cause instant death."

## EXTEND PIERS, SAYS COMMERCE BODY

Chamber Also Reports in Favor of  
Investigating the High Cost  
of Living.

Among the principal things touched upon by the Chamber of Commerce in its issue of the January Bulletin as most deeply concerning the welfare of the people are port facilities and the high cost of living. Many other subjects are referred to as needing investigation from the public spirited citizens of this city and the country.

The Committee on Harbor and Shipping, which has been engaged several months in the investigation of increasing the facilities of the port and the extension of piers so as to accommodate the great steamships that are now building, will make its report this month. Our largest wharves cannot accommodate properly the steamships now plying in our waters. The Committee on Piers and Headlands of the Chamber has recommended the extension of the wharves which New York can.

R. A. S. Smith, chairman of the committee, has had experts give their views to the members of what improvements are needed for this port. Steamship men, engineers, railroad men, shippers, navigators and owners of steamships have testified to what the city needs.

That the big steamships have been able to dock at piers close to the center of the city is an advantage which New York can not very well afford to forego, at a time when rival Atlantic ports are making strong efforts to obtain the shipping, and when all the big ports of the world are providing improved terminal facilities.

It is the position of the Chamber of Commerce, as expressed in this committee's report, that the harbor of New York should be extended to the center of the city, and that the extension would be ample for the purposes of safe navigation.

The opinion of New York, says the report of the committee, as voiced by the Mayor, Commissioner of Docks, prominent engineers and the best authorities in the country, is that the extension of the harbor, mammoth steamships, is overwhelming in favor of the extension of piers asked for in the Chelsea petition.

The Committee on Finance and Currency will, at the next meeting of the Chamber, present a report offered by Dock Commissioner Calvin Tomkins favoring the proposal for an official international commission on the cost of living, to be called by the invitation of the United States. The worldwide advance in prices, says the report, in recent years, increasing the cost of living, is believed to be the cause of much of the social discontent now prevailing in many of the leading countries. It presents a problem calling for a body of trained experts.

It is stated by the report that one hundred of the leading political economists, financiers and statesmen of Europe have placed themselves on record in favor of an international commission on the cost of living, and the great majority of them have expressed the opinion that the United States should take the lead in calling together such a commission.

According to the report of the foreign commerce of the port for the year ended June 30, 1911, it aggregated \$1,744,877,131, a gain of \$1,871,077 over 1910. The foreign commerce of this country during the same year was \$2,783,280,177, an increase of \$219,000,852 over 1910. New York's share of it amounted to 46.1 per cent. The exports of the country increased \$212,889,191, while the imports increased \$1,265,538.

New York's domestic imports during the fiscal year 1911 amounted to \$27,121,800, as compared with \$23,775,551 in 1910, a decrease of \$3,346,249. The city's exports were \$307,068,417, against \$750,923,336, an increase of \$443,854,919.

## One Killed, Twenty Hurt in Wreck.

El Razo, Okla., Wednesday.—In a head on collision on the Rock Island Railroad to-day near El Razo, when the "Fire Fly," south bound, and passenger train No. 41 crashed together, James Potter, of Chickasha, Okla., engine driver on the "Fire Fly" was killed and twenty passengers and members of the train crew were injured.

Electric Chair for Cats and Dogs.  
NEWPORT, R. I., Wednesday.—An electric chair, similar except as to size to those used for electrocuting murderers, is to be installed by the Newport Animal Refuge to end the lives of stray cats and dogs.

## SPECIAL NOTICES.

HASKINS & SELLS,  
Certified Public Accountants  
30 BROAD STREET  
NEW YORK

LONDON, CHICAGO, ST. LOUIS, CLEVELAND,  
PITTSBURGH, BALTIMORE, SAN FRANCISCO  
AND  
JOHN F. FORBES  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT,  
CROCKER BUILDING  
SAN FRANCISCO

ANNOUNCE  
The consolidation of their professional accounting  
business, January 1, 1912, between the  
of Haskins & Sells, Mr. Forbes will be the  
dent partner, with Mr. Crocker Building,  
San Francisco, Cal.

## SEARCH HER LACES FOR STOLEN GEMS

Police Overhaul Mlle. Schir-  
mann's Lingerie and Gowns  
While She Is in Tombs.

### FIND MANY LOVE NOTES

Hundreds of Articles Are Found  
Among Her Effects Which  
Await Identification.

Three detectives and half a dozen physicians standing knee deep in French lingerie, laces and Paris gowns, with bushels of love letters, French novels and bric-a-brac, from high back combs to pearls and diamonds, at the West Fifty-eighth street police station last evening, were still searching for possible gems and jewelry secreted in the wearing apparel of Mlle. Eugenie Schirmann, aged twenty-six years, of Paris, and in the Tombs, to be examined by the Grand Jury this morning, charged with stealing a \$2,000 diamond engagement ring and other valuable treasures from families she had served as governess and maid.

When Detective James F. Halsey, Bradin and Flynn arrested her at one o'clock on New Year's morning she was returning from a French ball given by a flock of Parisian "models" at the Manhattan Casino, West 188th street, and was about



EUGENIE SCHIRMAN.

to enter the Lucerne apartment house, where she was employed as governess to the children of Hugo Illias. He had missed keepsakes and learned that other employees had also been robbed. Then he called in the detectives.

While she was at the ball they searched her room and found several thousand dollars' worth of diamonds and other valuables. Then they awaited her return and arrested her. She confessed, said she expected to meet her fiancé in Paris in a few weeks and wished to impress him with the wealth she had acquired in America.

When before Justice Butts in the Harlem Police Court on New Year's she pleaded guilty, and was held in \$5,000 bail to await the action of the Grand Jury to-day. The complainant was George E. Chatillon, of No. 34 West Ninety-sixth street, her former employer, and from whom she took the most valuable articles. Mr. Chatillon, his wife's sister, of No. 10 East Ninety-sixth street, was asked ten months ago to take charge of the Chatillon children while the mother visited Europe. So the governess, with the children, was sent to Mrs. Powell with a sealed envelope containing \$100 in cash, with a gold chain and locket belonging to Mrs. Chatillon's oldest girl. The money was to pay the governess wages. A week later the envelope vanished, followed by the disappearance of a \$2,000 engagement ring belonging to Mrs. Powell.

The girl was suspected, and when Mrs. Chatillon returned in July detectives of the Fidelity and Casualty Company, who had insured the valuables, suggested that she be given a vacation, that they might shadow her. She said she preferred to remain at home. Then she was told by a friend of the detectives that if she returned the gems and money, placing them in a certain place she would not be arrested. She made no response. Later she was discharged.

On New Year's morning Mrs. Powell was asked by Mr. Elias if she had missed any valuables. "Yes," was the reply, and the arrest followed. The girl said she had been in America three years and had taught in Louisville and other places in the Southwest.

She had received many letters from admirers in different parts of the country. It had been impossible to identify the thousands of articles found among her effects. Among them are these:—

The \$2,000 ring, a richly decorated mesh bag, cash \$150, two dozen fine scarfpins, a valuable brooch, a diamond bracelet, a set in platinum; a cluster diamond pin, a wedding ring, marked R. M. G. to R. T. Jan. 18, 1905; a small silver locket, marked G. C. a silver spoon, marked G. C. a Jewish emblem, rich with gems; also silver rings, card cases, gold necklaces, two bar pins, breast pins, with diamonds; also neck chains and eyeglasses.

## Three Voters to Hold Own Election.

RALEIGH, N. C., Wednesday.—Wake county, in which the city of Raleigh is located, is soon to have what probably will be the only election ever held with the election officers as the only qualified voters. The election is to be held in District 4, Cedar rap township, and is for special school tax. The district has three voters.

Dartmouth Has Prosperous Year.  
CHICAGO, Ill., Wednesday.—Dartmouth College, according to its president, Dr. Ernest Fox Nichols, had the most prosperous year of its existence in 1911. Dr. Nichols spoke at a reunion of Dartmouth graduates at the University Club last night.

## DRY GOODS, & C.

THE JOHN M. CRAPO  
LINEN STORE,  
ESTABLISHED 1800.

will sell, for a limited time only, odd lines of their Italian Towels, Towelling and Plain Linens, by the yard, at 20% below regular prices.

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431 Fifth Av.,  
NEW YORK.

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## HAY ARMY BILL IS CALLED INIQUITOUS

Would Revive Spanish War  
Mistakes, Says Brigadier  
General McCoskry Butt.

### GUARDSMEN OPPOSED

Blames Adjutant General Ainsworth's  
Ambition to Retire on Plane  
with Grant for Measure.

Brigadier General McCoskry Butt, N. G. N. Y., a letter from whom, on the Army Reorganization bill, introduced in the House by Representative James Hay, of Virginia, appears in another column, is making a vigorous effort to stir up opposition to the bill among national guardsmen in this city.

General Butt declares the bill is the most important piece of military legislation that has been seriously considered since 1901, when Senator Elihu Root, then Secretary of War, taking a lesson from the mistakes disclosed in the Spanish War, placed control of the army in the hands of the line officers.

The effect of this measure on the National Guard will be thoroughly understood," said General Butt to a Herald reporter yesterday. "If it is passed it will wipe out the 'Division of Militia Affairs' and the Chief of Coast Artillery, the direct connections between the militia and the regular army. Not only that, but it will be followed, I am certain, by the killing of the National Guard pay bill."

"Why isn't this bill brought out in the open like any other piece of legislation? Here we find it backed on to the Appropriation bill and an effort made to railroad it through the House without attracting attention."

Thinks Mr. Hay is Misled.  
"I am convinced that Representative Hay has been badly fooled by the backers of this bill. The man behind the bill is Adjutant General Ainsworth, who has been called the greatest politician in the army. If the bill goes through this man, who hasn't seen a soldier save on parade for twenty years, will retire as a lieutenant general. His ambition to quit the army when his time comes on the same plane with men like Grant and Sheridan is what is behind this iniquitous measure."

"Are we going to sit quietly by and see a revival of the conditions which cost the country hundreds of lives in the Spanish War? I do not believe it is possible. If the people are informed of the Hay bill, that is why it should be immediately detached from the Appropriation bill and made the subject of hearings before the Committee on Military Affairs."

"This bill, it is said, will decrease the expenses of the army, but it also decreases its efficiency. It is not apparent that in any part the army will be benefited by the change. The increase of the term of enlistment for three to five years is bad."

## MUST HAVE TRAINED MEN.

"We will never have a sufficiently large regular army to carry on a war, therefore, it is important that we should have as many trained men in other walks of life as possible."

"With the three years' enlistment we discharge into private life twenty-seven thousand trained men a year, while with a five years' enlistment we will send out but sixteen thousand annually. Then again many young men will enlist for three years who will not enlist for five."

"The five year term serves only to aggravate our present difficulty in providing for the national defense, and such defense is the principal reason for the existence of the army at all."

"The bill also consolidates the quartermaster, commissary and day departments. This will leave the control of the supply corps in the hands of the present permanent members of the staff corps until 1915, and may result in the appointment of a paymaster as chief of this bureau, while no officer of the line, no matter how magnificently qualified, can be selected for this important position. The whole thing is a return to control of the army by bureau chiefs, instead of by soldiers of experience."

## WOMAN RECLUSE FOUND DEAD

Lived Alone in a Bayside, L. I., House  
and Had Been Missed  
For Days.

For ten days neighbors of Mrs. Annie Thornton, an aged widow, noticed the closed blinds of her home at Fifth street and Warburton avenue, Bayside, L. I., and wondered where she had gone to spend the holidays. Mrs. Thornton had lived in the same house for twenty-five years, but mixed little with her neighbors. And because she kept to herself, she was a fertile subject for gossip and the tales of her wealth and reputed parsimony were circulated.

Yesterday afternoon John Phillips, a mounted policeman, rode by and Jeremiah McMahon, a neighbor, spoke to him of Mrs. Thornton's absence. Finding the windows and doors barred, the policeman obtained a ladder and looked through the blinds of a second story bedroom. Mrs. Thornton's body lay beside her bed. She had been dead for days. Coroner Ambler and death was due probably to exposure and lack of food. There was no cash in the house, but he found a pass book of the Queens County Savings Bank and a deed to the house, which is valued at \$10,000.

## Bellboy Held as Burglar.

William Meredith, a negro bellboy, of No. 252 West 124th street, was held in \$2,000 bail for the Grand Jury by Magistrate Appleton in the Jefferson Market Court yesterday after stealing \$500 worth of jewelry from the apartments of Howard F. Bartine, of No. 8 West Thirty-second street.

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DRY GOODS, & C. DRY GOODS, & C.

## Anniversary Sales

# "The Big Store"

TWO MAMMOTH BUILDINGS

## GREENHUT-SIEGEL COOPER CO.

BOTH SIDES OF 6TH AVE. J.B. GREENHUT PRS. 15TH AND 19TH STS.

Do You Desire to Save Money?  
Then don't fail to become a collector of  
The Only Old and Reliable  
J.N. Trading Stamps

The same stamps that many thousands of our customers have been collecting to their great advantage for years.

These stamps secure for you the equivalent of at least 3% discount on all your purchases at The Big Store.

THIS DISCOUNT IS AVAILABLE TO EVERY CUSTOMER. IT IS NOT RESTRICTED TO A FAVORED FEW.

Some stores ask you to deposit money before making a purchase in order to enjoy the convenience of a charge account, and to induce you to do this they offer you a small discount at the end of the year.

NOT SO WITH THE BIG STORE.  
If, however, you desire to deposit your money, drawing interest at 4% per annum, we offer you the banking facilities and safety of Greenhut, Siegel, Cooper & Co., Bankers, situated on the balcony in our MAIN Building.

Those who desire may open charge accounts at The Big Store with